Chapter 2 Providing Feedback

Providing Feedback to students is important and essential and four generalizations were made about providing feedback:

**Generalizations**

1. Feedback should be corrective in nature.
2. Feedback should be timely.
3. Feedback should be specific to a criterion.
4. Students can effectively provide some of their own feedback.

Based on these generalizations they have three recommendations for classroom practice:

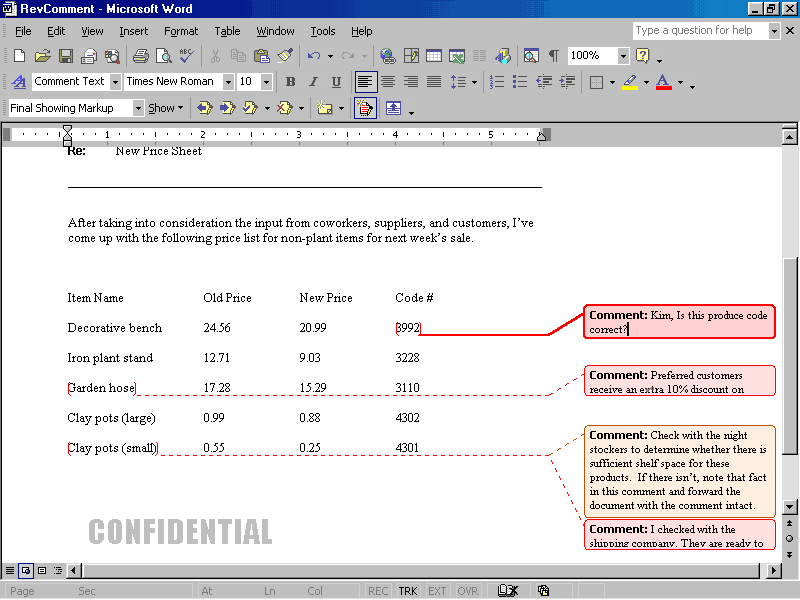
1. Use criterion-referenced feedback.
2. Focus feedback on specific types of knowledge.
3. Use student-led feedback.

This chapter is then split into four different sections: Word Processing Applications, Data Collection Tools, Web Resources and Communication Software

Word Processing Applications

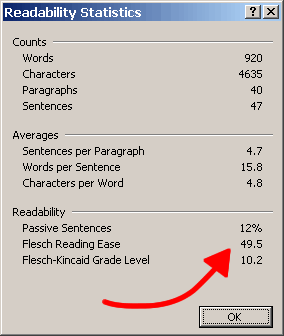
Microsoft Word Insert Comments feature can give and gather student-led feedback

* To use this function select the Review tab, make sure you cursor is where you would like the comment shown, select New Comment
* Put all student work in a shared folder to have students give comments to each other



Microsoft Word also has a tool called the Flesch-Kincaid Readability Scale, which calculates the complexity of a piece of writing in terms of sentence length and the number of syllables in the words used.

* To use this function click on the Microsoft Office button, go to word options, click proofing, and check the box that says show readability statistics, when you do the spelling and grammar check the readability score will show up



Data Collection Tools

1. Classroom Response Systems
   1. Tool collects data through the use of clickers, and then generates an immediate analysis of how students responded.
   2. Students have a perceived anonymity of the response which makes for more honest answers and a more accurate assessment.
   3. Teachers can create different multiple choice tests using this and get a summary of the data in many different ways
   4. Teacher is then able to create a study guide from quiz given based on each students responses

[Einstruction](http://www.einstruction.com/)

1. Grading Software
   1. Mostly being used at the College level now but makers of these products have studies that show a strong correlation between computer generated scores and those of human experts. Making it possible to give students timely feedback on writing and push them to improve their scores.

[Vantage Learning](http://www.vantagelearning.com/school/products/myaccess/), [Maplesoft](http://www.maplesoft.com/), [Educational Testing Service](http://www.ets.org/) and [SAGrader](https://www.sagrader.com/login)

Web Resources

Online games, quizzes and simulations provide immediate feedback to students, parents and educators.

REMEMBER: Doctors, soldiers, pilots, and even customer service agents use simulations and games for training!

Web resources are nonjudgmental and a struggling student can practice a skill as many times as necessary, and the computer, unlike a human instructor, will never grow frustrated.

[Math Playground](http://mathplayground.com/)

K-6 site provides engaging games that encourage students to challenge themselves

[ExploreLearning](http://www.explorelearning.com/)

6-12 site provides virtual manipulatives to experiment in science and mathematics

[Cut The Knot](http://www.cut-the-knot.org/)

Site for teachers, parents and students who seek engaging mathematics

[BrainPOP](http://www.brainpop.com/)

Site has short movies on a wide variety of topics, after the movie there is a short quiz

[BBC Skillswise](http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/)

K-6 provides fact sheets, interactive games and quizzes in mathematics and language skills

Communication Software

1. Blogs – short for “Web log”
   1. Make it interactive, allowing student input and feedback
   2. Students can post work to blog and provide feedback to each other
2. Wikis- groups can edit work and information together
3. E-mail
   1. Can be used to send feedback to students, attach parents
   2. Students can e-mail assignment instead of hand in paper copy
4. Instant Messaging
   1. Teacher can establish a time every week that student know you will be online. This allows students to ask questions as they are working on homework or projects
5. Video Conferencing
   1. Example given: Spanish teacher wanted to give her students conversational experiences, students connect to sister school in Spain, students are able to give each other feedback on their language usage